

Print 3
October 1990

■ in this issue:

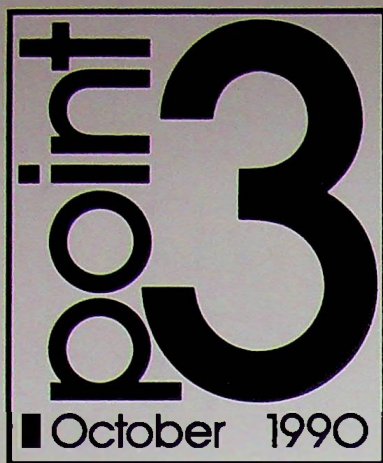
BERLIN REVISITED

TRUMPETER JONES



The magazine of
 **TOC H**

price 30p



The magazine of **TOC H**

Toc H is a movement of people who seek to build friendships, and offer service, across the barriers that usually divide us from one another. The basic unit is the group - at best a good cross-section of the local neighbourhood - which meets together regularly, and seeks to serve the community around it. Toc H was founded in 1915 by the Rev P. B. 'Tubby' Clayton, and since then has been providing opportunities for people to test the Christian way by practical experiment.

All members pledge themselves to try:

1. To welcome all in friendship and lessen by habit of thought, word and deed the prejudices which separate people.
2. To give personal service.
3. To find their own convictions while listening with respect to the views of others.
4. To acknowledge the spiritual nature of man and to test the Christian way by trying it.

This magazine is a forum for ideas about Toc H and about the world as well as a record of Toc H service. Its title derives from the third of these Four Points.

Putting Toc H Back on the Map

I am often asked how we can obtain more publicity for the movement, as this is my area of responsibility as well as being Editor. In fact we get quite a lot of coverage in local newspapers around the country and the press cuttings arrive regularly on my desk. It is interesting to note that where branches make an effort to be outgoing and to contact their local newspapers, often becoming on first name terms with a particular local journalist, there is a spectacular improvement in coverage.

Since my appointment in April I have been asked to advise several branches about publicity. This has usually been the result of a 'phone call on their own initiative, so I am using this space to explain more widely how to be more effective.

A Press Release is most helpful. If you have an event coming up which is unusual or of general human interest, i.e. the sort of thing *you* would like to read in a newspaper yourself, type it out, double spaced, with a clear heading, on A4 sized paper. Reporters are interested in the facts - where, how, who, when. **News from Toc H** makes a good basic heading, as your local paper will then get used to hearing from you. You will need a sub-heading, summarising in as few words as possible what the event is going to be.

The 1990 celebrations of 75 years of Toc H have afforded an ideal opportunity to publicise the movement. Members like Joyce Becken from Melton Mowbray and Joan Spear from Tyne and Wear were quick off the mark in getting Press Releases to their local newspapers. Joan got on the front page of two newspapers - in what the trade call a 'glamour shot' - with two Coldstream Guards! And she's no spring chicken, but a handsome lady with bags of personality. So get cracking before the 1990 celebrations are over. I can supply you with a basic Press Release giving facts about the movement.

As part of the Celebrations we held an inter-faith reception at Lambeth Palace on 26 July, with representatives of a wide variety of faiths and Christian denominations. As a direct result, our director and national chaplain, together with a project volunteer and 100 year old Canon Lovell were heard for a good five minutes on Radio 4 at 7.45am on 19 August, being interviewed by Trevor Barnes. This was arranged very hurriedly, so there wasn't time to warn members to listen in.

Headquarters are holding a garden party on 1 September and an advance Press Notice has already resulted in 52 column inches of local press coverage. Our main local paper, the Bucks Examiner, also did a very good half page article about our anniversary on 17 August with an embarrassingly large photo of myself and John Mitchell. It included a good introduction to Bucks Friendship Circles.

So, publicity can happen. We are the sort of organisation that can never be 'hard' news, such as always occurred during my time as a Press Officer at the Home Office. There it was almost a question of fighting off the Press because, unfortunately, good copy for national papers tends to be of the disaster vein. But we are 'profile' material for magazines, religious broadcasting, specialist magazines and newspapers and, more than anything, excellent scope for local newspapers.

Open the channels to your local press, and remember that any information you send will be followed up if it is sufficiently interesting. It might be useful to add a line that a photographer ought to attend when the event concerned has a visual interest. And, a final point is that a photo of a female goes down well at any age - from glamour shot (anyone under 65!) to human interest. After all, we're so much nicer than men!

Ruth Boyd

Editor: Ruth Boyd
Designer: Sybil A. Chick

Cover

Vietnamese children on Project 50.
(See page 13.)

Photo: Chris Chapman

Letters, articles and news items are welcomed, and should be addressed to The Editor, *Point 3*, Toc H Headquarters, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 6BT. (Tel: 0296 623911)

Opinions expressed (including the editorial) are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Toc H movement.

Point 3 is available from Toc H Headquarters. Price: 30p per copy or £3.60 per years subscription. Any contribution towards the high cost of postage will be gratefully accepted.



Point 3 is printed on recycled paper.

Berlin is Changing

Timothy J Day first got to know Berlin three years ago while working for Toc H in Germany. He returned earlier this year with a Toc H party and found a very different city.

When I began to organise this trip the Wall was still firmly in place and there was no serious talk of uniting the two parts of Germany. Then quite suddenly and unexpectedly East Berliners were being allowed through the gap in the Wall at Checkpoint Charlie. It was a remarkable and moving moment when I saw it on television and I was tempted to fly straight there to join in the celebrations. Five months later we were there in our army bus.

The Toc H Club where we stayed provides simple and comfortable accommodation for travellers to Berlin and the staff made us very welcome. Our stay in Berlin took in many interesting places and sights, including a boat trip into East Germany, a tour round a museum, walking in a palace garden, a flea market and the parliament building (Reichstag) amongst others. Perhaps the most poignant aspect, however, was the gradual but evident warming of relationships between East and West.

*'the Wall itself was, for me,
the most moving experience'*

There were many East Berliners exploring the part of the city which for so many years had been forbidden to them. The Wall itself was, for me, the most moving experience. There were holes in it where there had never been holes before, and people were walking through them - though only Germans were permitted and we were turned back when we attempted it. There was a time, which had ended only months before, when anyone even just approaching the Wall from the Eastern side would have been shot dead. This Wall had divided toddlers from their parents, husbands from their wives and friends from friends - for 28 years - and now there were gaps in it. This was a grand symbol of the reconciliation of two parts of the same country - and of individuals.

Heinz once worked for Toc H and now owns and runs a small bar not far from the Toc H Club in Spandau. We did not know this on our last evening when we bowed to pressure from a member of our party to try to find him a very large beer. Well, the beer wasn't found, but Heinz was - and this is the story he told.

In about 1960 Heinz had set off from Berlin to work in Australia, but he had not enjoyed it much. He gave it two or three years but decided to return home to Germany where he hoped to renew contact with his family and find a local job. This was not to prove as simple as he had wished. Whilst he had been away the Berlin Wall had been erected and there was little contact between people on the separate sides of Berlin. He was on the horns of a dilemma because his mother and sister were in the East and he wanted to see them, but if he went there then he would not be allowed to



Timothy Day sits in a hole in the Wall with East Berlin behind him.

leave again. So, he went to West Berlin and decided to make enquiries about his close family. Nobody knew anything of them. It seemed that they had moved from East Berlin without trace.

Some 30 years later, whilst serving behind the bar, Heinz looked up at a woman who was coming through the doorway. He says, with tears in his eyes, that he immediately recognised his younger sister and that the family is now reunited. This happened two months ago and is a real and wonderful sign of how life is changing in Germany.

Our Toc H group was more than lucky to witness and talk about many of the changes which were taking place and we all went home feeling a sense of real hope, not only for people like Heinz and the country of Germany, but for the world. Others can share in this experience, and anyone interested should let me know and I will discuss the possibilities with them. There is currently a plan to take some of the Toc H volunteers, who have worked on Berlin playschemes, to see how things have changed since they were there. If you have been a volunteer in Berlin then please register your interest with me via Headquarters.

By the beginning of 1991 the two states of East and West should have become one Germany again, and the Wall will be an abomination of the past. I hope maybe that they will leave just a short stretch of it, in some quiet place, so that people may go there and remind themselves of the tragedies of division and the healing of reconciliation. I hope too that the names of those who died trying to cross that Wall will be written there and that they will be remembered as the brave victims of oppression.

■ *Timothy J Day is a Toc H Development Officer working in Surrey and Sussex.*

Great War memories

Kay Stubbs, aged 10 in 1915, saved up her pocket money, a penny a week, to send Woodbines to 19-year-old Geordie Trumpeter Jones at the Flanders Front:

Local Hero

'He was always my hero. He still is to this day. When I was good he called me hinny. He had those wistful eyes, like so many who never came home.

'There were 5 cigs in the tiny green packets, wrapped in paper. He used to send me news that Taffy was fit, by way of a gentle hint when he had been given no Woodbines by my father.

'I used to knit him ghastly khaki scarves, with dropped stitches and wavy edges; but at least they were made with the best quality wool - so they must have been warm.'

Trumpeter Jones was a 19 year old Geordie and my father's batman in the Northumbrian (North Riding) Royal Garrison Artillery. He rode a short-backed brown cob, with a docked tail, called Taffy and was expected to follow my father wherever he went. This was not easy as my father was mounted on a long-striding 16 hands hunter given to him by a friend from the Hurworth Hunt. During exercises on Newcastle Town Moor I could see my hero, Trumpeter Jones, pounding along on Taffy in hopeless pursuit of Jessie, my father's charger.



9 year old Kay took this photo of Trumpeter Jones and Taffy in Newcastle.

Major Stubbs and Jessie, pictured in 1914.



I was on Roseberry Topping with other children, having a picnic, on the Bank Holiday when war broke out. I ran home across the fields to see my father in khaki uniform, mounted on his motorbike, a 2-stroke Douglas, disappearing round the corner on his way to Middlesbrough.

3 May. 1915.
British Expeditionary Force.

My dear little Katharine

I have some eggs & chocolate to thank you for with some love, and he sent his love back to you. Tell the horses you know are sent well. I rode Peter yesterday morning & Jessie in the evening. We got lovely coffee, & have cakes from everywhere, we want to eat at present. I think Hugh must be long back to school very soon now. Best love to you all. Daddy.



Training on Newcastle Town Moor with 4.7 guns. They went out to Ypres in 1915. ▲

▲ A post-card to Kay from Major Stubbs before the 2nd battle of Ypres and severe food shortages.

I rushed into the house asking where he had gone and ran slap into the arms of my friend, Daisy, our housemaid. She said: 'There's a war on now - you be a good girl and no Germans will get you'.

A small hotel in Newcastle with a balcony had been taken over by the army, and I knew that my father had to meet a General there, so I went to see what was going on. Trumpeter Jones was walking Jessie up and down near the front entrance. I said 'give me a leg up, Trumpeter Jones' but he replied: 'Nay, Miss, you'll get me court martialled'. I persisted: 'please, please, I promise to stay in sight and Daddy won't know'. A booming voice from above called: 'Daddy will know!', and there on the balcony were my father and the General grinning down on us.

At the time I was a 9 year old Girl Guide and my friend a ten year old Boy Scout. One evening we decided to get on a tram and go, both in uniform, to Newcastle station to see the troops going to the Front. The place was dark and gas-lit, scething with khaki, and at the end of one platform there was a train of horse boxes where they were loading the heavy horses that pulled the big guns.

These poor creatures, commandeered from their quiet North Riding farms, were being cajoled and manoeuvred into the carriages that were to take them to Flanders. We stayed there for hours then went for a mug of tea on the railway station. There a Sergeant came up to us, asked us if we were alone, and ordered us to go home at once. We fled from the station into the pitch dark, arrived back to a reception of furious grown ups, and were sent straight to bed without any supper.

I used to go down the horse lines with my father to see my favourite horses, Trumpeter Jones and Taffy, and often stayed to talk. One day he seemed to be taking particular care over the grooming and had little time for me. 'Don't you pester me, Miss' he said, 'We're getting ready for Bingie Burton'; and this went on for a good week. It appeared that Bingie Burton was a General and was going to inspect the troops on the Town Moor.

The great day arrived and all the wives came to watch. I knew exactly what a General looked like because my brothers had one, the Duke of Wellington, in their box of lead soldiers. He rode a white horse and he wore a scarlet tunic and a big hat with a plume round it, and he had a lot of medals on his chest.

Suddenly everyone sprang to attention and a khaki-coloured open car crept in front of the troops and drew up opposite us. I could see my father quite near to us. A squat figure with a crimson face, wearing a short coat known as a 'British Warm', stepped out of the car on spindly legs. He had scarlet round his cap and there was no white charger. He was rather fat. My wail of disappointment clearly reached my father - as he said afterwards - and certainly reached the General. 'Is that Bingie Burton?' I cried, my whole world crashing around me with disappointment.

Trumpeter Jones was killed on the Ypres Salient. My father did not tell me till long after, and even then said a piece of shrapnel killed him instantly. This was the usual version given to friends and relatives, however appalling the death had been. Taffy never came home. Jessie did. □

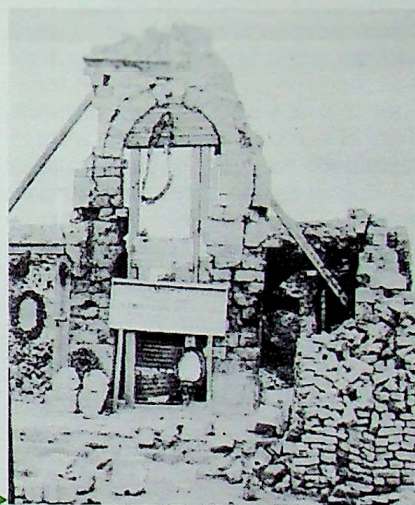
These photographs were taken in Flanders in 1921.



A dug out under a ruined house - Ypres. ▲



▲ The Lille Gate, Ypres.



A ruined church in Ypres. The notice reminds visitors that it is still holy ground. ►



Poperinge market. Note the dog carts. ▲

TIME TO MOVE ON

Toc H staggered me and it continues to stagger others

This is my last month working for Toc H after eight years as a member of its paid development staff. I am leaving for a number of reasons, not least of which is my continuing commitment to Toc H and what it stands for. If that sounds a bit daft, then I'd better explain. I see Toc H as a vehicle for challenging people, for offering them new situations, different ideas and for testing out what they feel about the variety of experience and the various people they encounter.

I know that I have been successful in providing some of those opportunities for many different people over the last eight years. I know that some of these people have been profoundly affected by Toc H and that many have been significantly influenced. I hope that very few have been involved and thought that nothing of interest had really happened to them. I believe that some of these people are grateful to me, and I know that I am extremely grateful to Toc H for actually paying me to explore the movement myself and to help offer it to other people. I'm not quite sure how I'll manage without working for Toc H.

And that is why it is time to move on. To be true to Toc H's own principles I want to test myself out elsewhere, among different people with different assumptions and different principles. It is limiting, I believe, to spend too long working for the same organisation, even when one enjoys it and values it immensely. Maybe I shall simply demonstrate to myself that I want to come back and work for Toc H again. I don't know. Just as I originally felt it would be silly of me not to try working for Toc H when given the chance, it now seems silly not to try something else. I can't know what it's like unless I do.

I hope it is clear from the above that I am not leaving out of any sense of disillusionment. Whilst I get impatient and angry about all sorts of sub-standard things masquerading as Toc H, I have also seen enough of the real thing to remain entirely convinced of its value. Above all I am indebted to the leaders of the first Toc H project I ever went on. That week with other volunteers and physically handicapped children was simply staggering for me. I had never experienced anything like it.

Today, despite all the problems, all the fallings-short, the inefficiencies and pettiness which afflict Toc H, we still sometimes offer experiences to people which stagger them. And in different ways, at different times, to different degrees, some of those people say to themselves, "So *that's* how life can be." Toc H at its best offers people a model for living.

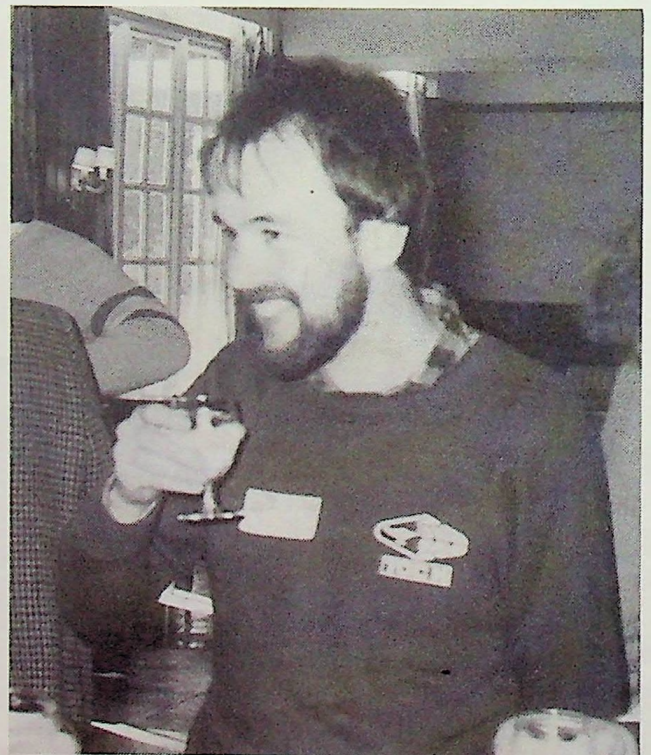
The last five of my eight years on the staff have been spent with my wife, Jane, at Lindridge House in Devon.

We were granted the privilege of designing a new piece of Toc H work, of writing our own job briefs and recommending the property in which our ideas could become reality. Lindridge has been our home and we have shared it with countless different groups of people, working intensively ourselves with many of them. I am delighted that what others first saw as something unique to Jane and Philip Douch has proved to be a way of working which Toc H now plans to develop in different ways in different places.

'real caring from a bunch of inexperienced unskilled volunteers'

The real measures of success, however, are things which have happened to people, between people and through people. In themselves these may seem small, but each one is a demonstration of what I believe I have been employed for. I am still amazed, for instance, at the dedication, patience and care which countless volunteers offer to other people who may be in particular need of their time and friendship. The role Jane and I have had has been to provide the conditions in which this can happen, but the real caring has usually come from a bunch of inexperienced, unskilled volunteers who discover capacities for care which seem extraordinary.

Yet one of the real satisfactions of the work has been to realise that this commitment is not really extraordinary at all. It is quite ordinary in the sense that, given other people's help and support, everyone seems able to do it! For too many of us our potential remains hidden. It is a Toc H success story every time our work provokes people to discover that they and others are capable of more than they thought possible.



Philip in relaxed mood!

Philip and Jane Douch leave Lindridge House this month in search of new challenges and new opportunities. They look back over five exciting and significant years.

I've seen a teenager with plenty of problems of his own spend half an hour with a severely disabled lad at the snooker table and then proudly report that the disabled boy had pointed to the word 'friend' on his chart of words and symbols. I've had a young woman vehemently demand of older Toc H members that projects should have as many volunteers as children because it's the one-to-one relationships she experiences which draw her to Toc H, and the same young woman paid us one of our greatest compliments when she said of Lindridge House, 'You can be honest here'. A month or two ago I suspected another young volunteer had disagreed with something I had done during the day and I asked her in the evening if she had disapproved. Her simple reply that if that had been the case she'd have said so was another real compliment to me and to what she has found in Toc H at Lindridge House.

Such openness is a gratifying sign of success. I believe that it is generated firstly by a genuine welcoming acceptance and secondly by a willingness to challenge people. That challenge can and should sometimes be disturbing and if I were to criticise our work it would be that we were too often too nervous of risking upsetting people. There was some uncomfortable truth in one visitor's remark about 'nice Lindridge House'. There were times when we allowed ourselves and others to sidle past things instead of wrestling with them.

*'experiencing excitement, risk, challenge,
fun, care, confidence and love'*

I want to finish this article by referring to one of the most profound experiences of the last five years - the production of 'Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat' which was reported in August's *Point 3*. Mixing prisoners, members of the general public and a group of young men with learning difficulties in rehearsing and performing such an emotional musical produced the real essence of Toc H. So many people were staggered by it. It had little to do with projects, branches, members, DEC's, methods, structures, ceremonies and all the things we find ourselves pretending Toc H is about. It had everything to do with a diverse group of people experiencing together excitement, risk, challenge, fun, care, confidence and love - the things Toc H is really about. At its core, although there were lots of arrangements to make and plans to draw up, it was very simple. People bothered about people and the results were staggering, especially for those who had rarely felt bothered about in their lives.

At the end of 'Joseph' I was one of many people close to crying. At the end of my last Staff Gathering a month or so earlier as I said farewell to colleagues I was crying too. That took me by surprise and rather pleased me. I think I may feel the same when Jane and I leave Lindridge House. I hope so. Working for Toc H has been a huge part of my life and it is going to be very strange without it. Don't ever let anyone say that Toc H doesn't attract people these days. It staggered me and it continues to stagger others. Where it doesn't, we're not doing it right.

Philip

'The things I'll miss -and the things I won't'

I must admit that when Philip and I first dreamt up the idea of Lindridge House, I was only going to work half-time so that I would have time to do what you might call my 'lady of the manor' act! I saw myself growing all the vegetables for visitors, making all our bread, littering the house with vases of flowers from the garden, making countless pots of jam and generally amazing everyone with our civilised and self-sufficient lifestyle. As a friend remarked when she heard the news of what we were going to do, Toc H were going to pay for us to live in a nice big house in the country. But needless to say reality broke in, in the shape of rabbits and weeds which defeated my efforts to grow anything to maturity; and the people who came to the house, who obviously hadn't read my script of how they should be and behave and insisted on being themselves!

We have been incredibly fortunate to have been able to decide how we wanted to work and then be given the chance to make that idea become reality. I shall always be grateful to Toc H for having the imagination to take the chance on us. They have, I feel, been amply rewarded by our hard work and commitment over the five years we have worked here, which has resulted in a large number of new people becoming involved with Toc H in different ways. Lindridge House itself is viewed with great affection by a lot of people, both those new to Toc H and existing members, and we, and therefore Toc H, are respected by local agencies and schools for the way that we work with groups and the high standards that we maintain.

This makes it sound like everything has been wonderful and fallen into place without much effort, which of ▶



Jane and Philip with Pen Bayley who with Sam Morris takes over at Lindridge House.

■ Continued from previous page

course it hasn't. The most common response to being told that we are leaving soon is, 'You're really going to miss all this, aren't you?' Well, yes, in some ways, but let me just mention a few of the things I won't miss!

I won't miss being 'on duty' 24 hours a day and having to be away from home if we want to have an evening off or a day not working. I know from the time that Philip was a Development Officer working from home in Newbury that anyone working from home has difficulties in getting away from work, but when the house is 'public' property as well. . . We have had unexpected visits from people just turning up to look round the house, which particularly happens on a Sunday afternoon when you've been running a project with exhausting children all weekend, everyone's just left and you're about to put your feet up and switch off. We've had to learn to be friendly and welcoming but to leave people to show themselves around after explaining that it's our time off and if they had just phoned before coming. . .

'it'll be nice having a kitchen we don't share with someone else'

I won't miss having to relocate the kitchen utensils after a group's been in (does anyone you know keep the tin opener in the games cupboard?), to put back up *again* the curtain rail that just came down when someone looked at it, to clean the loos because the group seem to think they were self-cleaning (despite very clear cleaning instructions!) and to try and keep up with the hundred and one repairs that a large old house creates. It'll be nice to have a kitchen that we don't share with anyone else so that you *know* there will be some clean pans and some space in which to cook.

I also won't miss having to phone everyone we know in the desperate attempt to fill those last two places on the project starting in four days time when two people have pulled out at the last minute - a not unusual occurrence! We don't seem to know many people who haven't been dragged into doing something for Toc H at some point and you can hear the wary note in people's voices when they realise it's us on the phone! I must confess that I gave a sigh of relief when I finished my last project although that was sad as well. Having run countless projects over the last five years, I feel like I am overdosed on them!

'parents have trusted us to care for their child'

But of course the past five years haven't been all bad or we wouldn't have stayed so long! I know it's the good things, the people, the laughs, which will stay with me after the memory of the daily niggles has long since faded. It's always rewarding to find that the parents of a handicapped child have trusted us to care for their child for its first time away from home when they wouldn't trust the statutory care offered. The kids from Birmingham, who arrived after a long journey on a cold rainy winter's night, reminded us of our good fortune when they said it wouldn't matter if it rained all weekend because it was great just being in the house. We have had a number of letters from volunteers after projects saying they'd been sure before the project that they wouldn't be able to cope with looking after a handicapped child but because everyone was so supportive they'd done it and gained so much confidence from the experience.

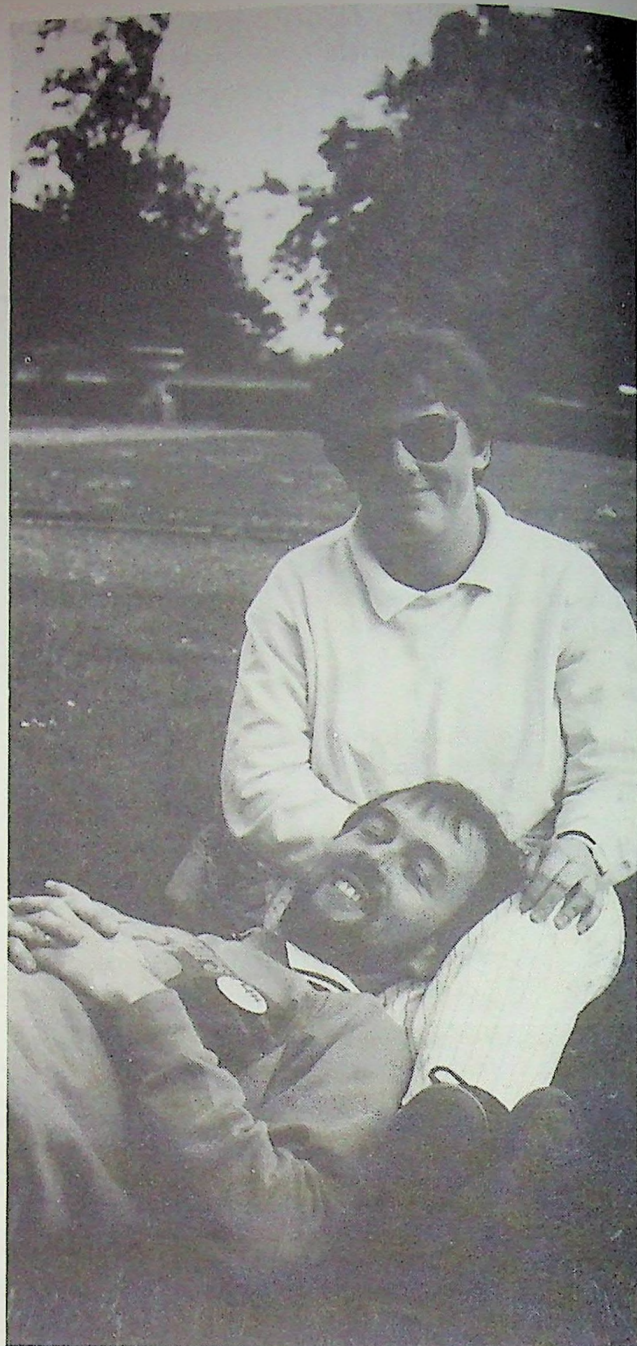


Photo: Ian Pearce

Taking a break.

It has been very satisfying to enable people who came to the house originally as 'clients' (horrible word) to take on some responsibility and become 'volunteers'; to look back at a project which has had its share of problems and know it was still a positive experience; to see volunteers become leaders and know you have helped them to do a good job. It has been great to have had the freedom to organise our own work as we felt was appropriate and I'm sure I'm going to find it hard to adjust to working for some one else.

I also tend to forget how wonderful the surroundings are at Lindridge. I know I'm going to be very upset when the day comes for us physically to leave as it's been so much of my life for the last five years but, like Philip, I know it's time to move on, both for myself and for the work. The house needs new people, new ideas, new enthusiasm, new challenges and so do I. Change isn't easy but it does show that you're alive and kicking and I find that very reassuring!

Jane

TOC H accounts 1989-90

A Good Platform for the Future

says Ted Tunnadine in introducing the annual accounts.



Ted Tunnadine at No 11 - is he going to be the new Chancellor having reduced our deficit?

With careful cost controls allied to a maintained activity level, expenditure increased by less than inflation rate at only 2.3% and the overall deficit was reduced to £410K from last years figure of £479K. This deficit was again financed from sales of assets thus reducing the earning potential of those remaining. The Development Fund did not keep pace with national inflation being 1% lower in total or over 8% lower in real terms of purchasing power. This position must lead to a review of long term financial planning.

However, membership giving increased by 14.1% and there was a substantial improvement in fund raising indicated by a 79.5% increase over last year's figure, a very creditable performance.

It is clear that for the work of the movement to progress in these difficult economic times reliance cannot be placed on investment income to the same degree as hitherto, and fund raising and membership giving must be an increasing source of revenue.

The laudable policy of 'spend in faith' means greater efforts to improve income and continued strict cost controls.

The financial health of the movement at present is such that with clear direction there is a good platform to further its aims in the coming years. ☐

book review Take Time to Listen

THE GOD WHO SPEAKS
by Ian Petit

Darton Longman & Todd, £2.75

Ian Petit had been a priest for many years before he understood the central truth of the Gospel. He was sent as a young man from England to America. With three other monks he founded a monastery school in Missouri. As time went by he became wearied and completely disillusioned and so began to question his beliefs. He seemed to have given up so much for so little, having left both home and country. Near to his priory was a convent where he occasionally attended prayer meetings given by a Dominican monk and a Baptist minister. He was interested and yet suspicious of all the enthusiasm of people there but he needed help

and wanted to share in that love, joy and peace.

The book tells us that in spite of sound Christian teaching, misconceptions can arise. For Ian Petit the language of the church had often obscured the truth and he was grateful for the ecumenical fellowship which allowed him to be influenced by the simplicity of the Protestant approach. He had never experienced such love and realised that God wants not just those who seem to know everything, but men of faith.

We should look beyond ourselves, for we are not just body and soul but body and soul and spirit. Our thought process is very complex and there is a reality which cannot be reached by words or thoughts or deeds. Stillness is a part of our lives. We need stillness to hear the word of God. Man is master of the material world but there is a great flaw in his make-up. He has been endowed with great intelligence but the problem is not to do with politics or economics but the heart of humanity. We are extremely

talented yet we are all restless. We can attain heavenly heights and yet mankind is also capable of the most foul deeds - because of sin.

The author goes on to say that we all have God given gifts and it is our lifetime's work to use those gifts. In this busy world countless things are vying for our attention but we must take time to listen to the breathing of the world around us, the colour, shape and beauty; the wonder of nightfall, the rising of the sun and the changing of the seasons. We must try to look beyond ourselves to prayer, contemplation and meditation. To meditate makes us aware of our unawareness. Faith is a gift and to believe is to act out the truth. The author says that we are all pilgrims and this book is written to help others on their journey through life: it is written with sincerity but it needs to be read very carefully.

Hazel Scarlett

■ **Hazel Scarlett** works at Toc H Headquarters.

Consolidated Summary Profit and Loss Account

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1990

| | | <u>1990</u> | <u>1989</u> |
|--|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| FUND RAISING | | | |
| Income | 172,790 | | 96,253 |
| Less: Cost of Fund Raising | (27,845) | | (21,286) |
| | | 144,945 | 74,967 |
| INVESTMENTS | | | |
| Income | 222,105 | | 230,642 |
| Less: Expenditure | (5,598) | | (4,344) |
| | | 216,507 | 226,298 |
| MEMBERSHIP INCOME | | | |
| | | 98,976 | 86,755 |
| | | 460,428 | 388,020 |
| MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANISATION COSTS | | | |
| | | (276,397) | 228,561) |
| DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICE | | | |
| Income | 299,950 | | 283,076 |
| Less: Expenditure | (893,749) | | (921,653) |
| | | (593,799) | (638,577). |
| DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR | | | |
| | | (409,767) | (479,118). |
| INVESTMENTS | | | |
| Realised Gains less Unrealised Losses | | (38,439) | 688,800 |
| PROFIT ON REALISATION OF PROPERTIES | | | |
| | | 332,523 | 6,027 |
| | | (115,684) | 215,709 |
| LEGACIES RECEIVED | | | |
| | | (5,101) | (113) |
| EXCHANGE GAIN/LOSS ADJUSTMENT | | | |
| | | 65,163 | (27,983) |
| | | (55,622) | 187,613 |
| DEVELOPMENT FUND AT 1 APRIL 1989 | | | |
| As previously stated | 6,819,946 | | 3,361,166 |
| Prior year adjustment | — | | 3,271,167 |
| Restated | | 6,819,946 | 6,632,333 |
| DEVELOPMENT FUND AT 31 MARCH 1990 | | | |
| | | £6,764,324 | £6,819,946 |

| | <u>1990</u> | <u>1989</u> |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|
| PROPERTIES, EQUIPMENT AND MOTOR VEHICLES | 1,744,033 | 1,549,467 |
| INVESTMENTS | | |
| At Market Value | 4,527,854 | 4,745,026 |
| Held on behalf of Branches | 10,316 | 11,567 |
| Cash Deposits held for Investment | 114,666 | 381,506 |
| LOAN – Talbot House Association, Belgium re Talbot House, Poperinge | 53,533 | 53,533 |
| CURRENT ASSETS | | |
| Stocks | 215,291 | 207,186 |
| Sundry Debtors and Payments in Advance | 165,573 | 148,975 |
| Current Account with Toc H 1964 Trust – Alison House | 18,263 | 2,484 |
| Bank Deposit | 212,911 | 266,495 |
| Building Society and National Savings Bank Deposits | 2,000 | 2,000 |
| Cash at Bank and in Hand | 267,080 | 64,272 |
| | <u>881,118</u> | <u>691,412</u> |
| LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES | | |
| Bank Overdraft (Secured) | – | 165,796 |
| Sundry Creditors and Accruals | 203,030 | 138,127 |
| Loans from Branches and Members (Unsecured) | 137,246 | 92,279 |
| Current Provisions and Funds | 95,060 | 93,256 |
| | <u>435,336</u> | <u>489,458</u> |
| | <u>445,782</u> | <u>201,954</u> |
| | 6,896,184 | 6,943,053 |
| LESS: DEFERRED LIABILITIES | 609 | 1,078 |
| NET ASSETS | <u>£6,895,575</u> | <u>£6,941,975</u> |
| Represented by: | | |
| DEVELOPMENT FUND | 6,764,324 | 6,819,946 |
| FUNDS HELD FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES | 131,251 | 122,029 |
| | <u>£6,895,575</u> | <u>£6,941,975</u> |

The Accounts for the year ended 31 March 1990 were audited by Kingston Smith, Chartered Accountants, Devonshire House, 146 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4JX. These Accounts are only extracts from the audited financial statements. Full copies of the accounts, including accounting policies and other notes are available to all members on demand. It would be helpful if any questions you may have on the accounts are submitted before Central Council to allow time for a full answer to be prepared.

E. TUNNADINE – *Honorary Treasurer*

P. D. L. MACKAY – *Finance Administrator*

The Editor, Paul S.
The W. Headquarters,
1 Forest Circle,
Windsor, Australia.
Bucks, HP22 6BT

CAMEOS

My simple mind would expect the Director to direct, and there seems to be plenty of room for such action in Toc H today. Get on with it, John!

LIVEN UP OUR MAG

If *Point 3* had not had a cover I would have thought I was reading a church parish magazine. I thought that *Point 3* was for public reading? Who would read this edition if they were not inclined to Christian leaning. How many Toc H members have *Point 3*? How many read it? How many project members take and read it (2 per cent)?

I would love to photocopy some of the journals of the 30s and 40s and let the present day members read the humorous anecdotes and the happiness that pervaded those

Maybe this letter will make you laugh, if so then I have achieved something.

The ladies took over in August!

EXCLUSIVITY

David Mayhew
Newcastle upon Tyne

NOTHING NEW

a) **Robin Dunford** (Point 3 June) that 'The Friendship Circle concept and philosophy, with its fundamental belief that we all need help and that all of us have something to offer has become . . . an accepted part of Toc H . . .'.

b) **Jane Richardson** (Point 3 June) that 'in Friendship Circles. . . you will find a loving acceptance, a welcoming of all in real friendship. . .'

c) **John Mitchell** (Point 3 July) who

d) **Ken Prideaux-Brune** (*Point 3* July) when he says 'I hope that in ten years' time [Toc H] will be a . . . place where people of different racial, cultural and religious backgrounds will get to know and understand one another, that it will express more fully the vision of Talbot House in Poperinge as a club for everyone',

I have seen Toc H, over many years, alive and at work among blind, lonely, sick, hard of hearing, housebound, mentally and physically handicapped; in hospitals, children's homes and prisons, working, not for but with, those who otherwise might have found barriers between themselves and the wider community. Many of those barriers were breached, in the same way that Friendship Circles aim to do today. Those activities were always friendship circles. We do not all live in multi-racial, multi-lingual or multi-faith areas, but we all live among multi-people, with all their needs to meet, problems to share, and contributions of fellowship to give and receive. We endeavour to respond to all those situations, according to our local opportunities and challenges, trying to practice Point One, always remembering that there are three other Points, all to be equally practised and communicated to others.

The CEC is currently addressing itself to the future 'shape' (the Director's word) of Toc H. May I suggest that they also look again and evaluate its shape in the past, in - dare I say it? - its heyday. They may find some guidance there.

Betty Cornick
Weymouth, Dorset

round 3

Women's Branch Sits in Silence!

The Women's Downend Branch held a sponsored Silence of one hour on 11 July in aid of Toc H Friendship Circles in Avon. This was a daunting task for a group of ladies who love to talk, laugh and debate. As one member's son said to her: 'Mum if you can keep quiet for one hour I will give you £10!'. A total of £114.61 was raised. The branch also held a coffee and home made cake sale on 12 June in aid of Family Purse - it was well attended and raised £100.

New Start in South Africa

Toc H has been reborn in Pietermaritzburg, South Africa, and the nucleus of the new group consists of 'exiles' from Zimbabwe. About a dozen members, mainly from Bulawayo, have moved south and settled in the Pietermaritzburg area. At a reunion in June they were joined by the Rev Jock Ellis, recently moved from Durban, and a couple of members of the old Pietermaritzburg Branch. The decision was taken to try to start a new branch and regular monthly meetings are now being held.

Holiday Time Yet Again

David Owen

The bay lay below, glistening green and sparkling in the sunlight. The headland with its rolling woods swept out to sea, and far beyond as far as the eye could see the further bays and outcrops disappeared into the misty distance. So this was where we were to spend our Friendship Circle holiday week, right down in the bay by the rocky beach by Lee Abbey. And what a week! Glorious sunshine all the time, walks through the woods by the tumbling rivers at Watermeet and the valley of Lorna Doone, trips out to sea, Holy Communion

on the beach followed by breakfast, rides across beautiful unspoilt Exmoor, a visit to the inferno of the blowing room of a glass factory, paddling in the pools and rivers, cream teas, a golf match fought to the last putt, games in the evening and visits to the local, a barbeque on the beach and, most unforgettable, those sunsets over the sea. For some it was their first holiday for years and for many the best ever. Thanks Jill and Terry for all the arrangements and the driving - we had a super time!

Individual Circles have also recently enjoyed day outings - Buckingham Circle to Blenheim Palace and Aylesbury Circle to Maidenhead on the River Thames, and of course our day with Jane at her new home at Hove. And all the time the sun shone down on us!



Risboro' Cares Day - Fete for publicising and fundraising for Caring Agencies in Princes Risborough. Friendship Circle members 'Human Fruit Machine' - Sally, Terry, Jill.



Getting to Know You

Project 50 - 'Happy Days Are Here Again' - which saw eight volunteers take groups of children of Vietnamese refugees resident in Merseyside, Liverpool and Birkenhead, to visit Chester Zoo, Southport, Morecambe, Rhyl and Blackpool. As part of these outings, the local Toc H branch in each town arranged an afternoon tea for the children and volunteers. This gave many more members a real involvement in the project. The project gave the volunteers an opportunity to meet with some of the refugee community and to learn at first hand the difficulties of settling into a different culture.

■ Continued from previous page

Haywain District's Celebration of the 75th Anniversary

Marjorie Taylor

On Sunday 22 July, Toc H members in the Haywain district and friends (49 people in all) travelled to the Norfolk Broads from Clacton-

on-Sea and picking up Elmstead, Ipswich, Trimley and Stowmarket members on the way.

At Wroxham we went on a boat tour of the Broads lasting over two hours. We were able to enjoy not only the restful scenery but also the activities of the many geese, ducks and other sea birds and the great variety of boats.

After an excellent meal at The Wherryman's Galley we all went to the ancient church of St Mary the Virgin, Wroxham, where the Rector had very kindly agreed to conduct a special **Evensong** for our party. A fitting end to a very happy day.



SUNDAY IS THE LONELIEST DAY OF THE WEEK - so Rushden branch found from a survey amongst people living alone. They decided to do something about it and on two Sunday afternoons each month open their premises for the lonely to join them for tea and a chat. They contacted various organisations, and advertised dates and opening times. They have a rota of members willing to help, and supply cards, games, magazines, etc. They make and serve tea and cakes, and say that it is very pleasing to hear the laughter and chat as the folks enjoy themselves.



Enjoying a slap-up tea after the annual outing for elderly and housebound people hosted by Morecambe Branch in Lancashire. The guests had earlier been taken on a coach tour of the Fylde, with a stop for an ice cream by the sea.

Update

new members

The following new members were registered during August:

Mrs Dorothy J Walsh,
Norman Voysey (Buckingham J)
Terence D Brown, Miss Julia C
Norman (Central branch)
Edwin G Crook (Exeter M)
Mrs Dorothy G M Craston
(Leicester W)
Mrs Veronica Wallis (Weymouth J)

Welcome to 7 new members

congratulations

To **Dennis Till**, South West Regional Secretary who has received from the Mayor of Chard a certificate for his outstanding service to the town.

points

The four branches in **Rochdale** were joined by the **Oldham** branch at a service of Thanksgiving and Dedication to celebrate 75 years of our movement. A collection was made for the Tubby Clayton Fund, which assists people training for full-time ministry in the Church.

Birthday Breakfast

Joan Clarke

What a unique way to celebrate 75 years of Toc H. The residents of the St Peters Toc H community house in Leicester arranged a commemorative breakfast. Approximately 30 people attended. We had a full English breakfast. The local radio station came along and did a live programme from the house, giving us a chance to explain what Toc H was all about and some of the things it does, and to say just what it meant to us. Many expressed grateful thanks for the great friendships they had formed through the movement. Many thanks to these youngsters, who will take Toc H safely into the next century.

obituaries

We regret to announce the death of the following members:

In July

Iris S Channings (Saltford)
Gladys Craven (Richmond)
Lily Dunscombe
(Chippenham District)
Hilda Fairweather
(Ashfield District)
Thomas Hogarth (Selkirk)
Laura Moseley
(Kings Norton & Northfield)
Elsa M Perrin (Enfield)
Leonard C Prentis (Ruislip)
Albert 'Bill' Stott (Cirencester)
Richard Wilkins (Walsall)

In August

Norman Bateman (Morecambe)
James Gittins (Uckfield)
Kathleen F Molyneux (Southport)
Howard A 'Bob' Peyton-Bruhl
(Warwickshire District)
R Les Wheatley (Cirencester)

Not previously recorded

Thomas F Bailey (Louth)
George W Hewson (Louth)
Frederick Knapp (Newbury)
Olive Maher (Rushden Afternoon)

Stockport Branch took some 50 elderly and housebound people, many of them in wheelchairs, by coach for an afternoon at Alison House in August. The cost, about £150, had been raised at a coffee morning and the outing 'was voted a huge success', says branch chairman, John Dallington.

Margate Branch held a very successful coffee morning in the lovely garden of Mrs H Smith. There were fancy goods, groceries, cakes, plants, vegetables and fruit for sale; and there was a tombola. The result? A lot of happy and appreciative people and the remarkable sum of £261.

Bletchley Branch were joined by members from Stony Stratford, Wolverton and Buckingham for their celebration of the Toc H 75th birthday. Good food and high class entertainment, from a group of 'barbershop' singers, added up to 'a fabulous evening', reports branch secretary Bert Strickland.

Higham Ferrers Women's Branch held an 'At Home' day at the home of member Mrs Joyce Bailey, which raised £122 to be used for an OAP outing.

When Alf Coates died in March, after nearly 40 years of Toc H membership, he was in his second stint as President of Toc H South Africa, so it is fitting that much of a special edition of *Compass*, the magazine of Toc H South Africa, is devoted to tributes to him.

His first term as President was from 1971 to 1973. He was no mere figurehead, writes Alec Bullivant, editor of *Compass*, but 'a leader in the thick of things with his sleeves rolled up'. His big achievement in those two years, according to John Cotton, in an article reprinted from the *Compass* of the time, lay in his 'seeing the role of Toc H in bringing the different language and racial groups to a better understanding and sympathy... While it is fashionable to speak of "dialogue" and "consensus" and other "in" terms of the moment, Alf went ahead and did it'. Eddie Edwards, former National Chaplain, describes how he and Alf formed a Toc H group in Soweto, which later grew into the Orlando Branch. It was here that Ben Motswenyane, who worked for several years as a Toc H Development Officer, was first attracted to the movement. Alf and Eddie also initiated a series of debates between pupils of Soweto High School and boys from a 'white' school. 'Many friendships,' says Eddie, 'were forged across the colour line which, in some reported instances, were furthered by correspondence for some time'. But this was by no means his only contribution. The amalgamation of the men and the women had only just taken place and the new and unaccustomed machinery had to be made to work. And it was Alf's encouragement, at a time when many were doubtful, which made possible the development of Toc H Gift Shops.

What of the man himself? Ivan Hampshire, chairman of Community Care Trust, which Alf had a large part in creating, describes him as 'one of the most determined people I have ever met in the pursuit of what he thought was right'. Marilyn Wilson, chairman of Toc H South Africa, saw him as 'a colourful character, determined, masterful and forceful, often impatient because he wanted to get things moving'. She adds: 'I was rather in awe of him but, as time passed, I found him to be a gentle and concerned person'. John Morgan, Honorary Administrator of Toc H South Africa, particularly remembers his 'eager voice'. For him the words which sum up Alf are 'entertaining, good fun, thoughtful, caring'.

All the contributors are at one in recognising that central to Alf's character and his achievement was his Christian faith. 'Professionally,' says Alec Bullivant, 'his contribution to Toc H was that of a businessman... (but) his spiritual impact upon Toc H was very much greater. His approach, spoken or otherwise, was always "bring God in"'. George Davis, former Administrator of Toc H in Britain and a close friend of Alf's, wrote Alf's wife, Margaret, shortly before his death, a letter which was read at the Memorial Service. It included these words: 'The love and friendship he has so generously given is only an outward sign of something eternal. We cannot understand it but, when Alf goes on, it is to a continuing life, where the love he has shown reaches its fulfilment'.

KP-B

Mrs Doris Yuille, who died in March, had been a Toc H Builder for more than 30 years. She and her first husband, James Hunter, were long standing friends of 'Tubby' Clayton. The ashes of both rest in the crypt of All Hallows Church.

Agnes Cook, who died in June, had been a member of Toc H for 63 years and was latterly one of the movement's Trustees. It was through Toc H that she was led into a career in social work, a career which took her to London, Carlisle and Cardiff. Later she worked as a probation officer and she served as a magistrate until she reached the retiring age of 70. As a Trustee of the Tubby Clayton Fund she took a great joy in the close friendships she developed with the ordinands from Wales helped by the Fund. Yet such a brief summary of a remarkable life does no more than hint at all the love and friendship she gave to so many. She remained forward-looking and, in the truest sense, 'young' to the end of her life. For myself, I feel that my right hand has left me but I know nonetheless that she still guides me.

EC

Sutton Coldfield branch secretary Hetty May Bullock died in June after a short illness. As a newcomer to Toc H she made her mark quickly

as a lively, caring member - a great talker and a good friend. Her joyous outlook on life made her presence at a meeting invaluable. How we miss her! No words can do justice to this unique character. May she rest in peace.

JT

Cirencester Branch members have sustained a great loss in the passing of our much loved Padre, Albert Stott MBE, affectionately known as 'Bill', who died peacefully on 3 July aged 84 years. Bill was a tower of spiritual strength to all of us and he entered fully into the life of the branch. Latterly his health was poor but he showed great fortitude and determination in fulfilling his office until the early part of this year. We all miss Bill very much. He has left us a great example for Christian living and we are honoured to have had him as our Padre.

JL

Len Prentis, one of the oldest members of Ruislip, Middlesex, branch, died in July. He was a fluent writer and was at one time a regular contributor of letters and articles to *Point 3*. He joined Toc H on leaving the Forces in 1945.

AJ

Gladys Craven who died on 24 July, aged 90, after many years of ill health, was introduced to Ecclesfield Women's Branch in 1936 by her daughter's schoolteacher. She held many offices at branch, district and even area level and, as she moved around the country, joined branches in Yorkshire and Lincolnshire. She finally became a member of Richmond (Surrey) Joint Branch along with her daughter, Pat Ingham, who was 'brought up' in the movement. Toc H was always the vehicle for Gladys to put into practice her sincerely held Christian beliefs. She kept her interest in life and sense of humour to the end. She knitted over 200 children's jumpers for Oxfam in the last five years of her life, as her Toc H job.

SCW

It is hard to realise that our friend Elsa Perrin has left us. Her death on 26 July after a sudden illness came as a shock to all her friends. She was a member of Toc H for 60 years and was associated with All Hallows by the Tower throughout. For many years she served on the staff of the Women's Association, as London and Home Counties Secretary and as International Secretary. After integration she continued in field work in the Home Counties. After retirement, a very active one, she continued to arrange Continental holidays for members, an extra mural activity started after the Oberammergau Pilgrimages in 1960. She gave support and help to Friends Anonymous and was one of its Hon. Directors. The care of its garden at Prideaux House was her pride and joy. Her many interests included wild life, walking, gardening and flower arranging. She had a great love of nature. Hers was a rich and fulfilled life. We thank God for that life of service and the privilege of having known her.

RRR

Les Wheatley, who died in early August, was among the longest serving members of the Toc H staff. He joined the staff in 1927, and served in the field in Yorkshire, Nottingham, Newcastle and London. He had a brief spell in HQ in the 1950s, and then returned in 1964 as Assistant General Secretary. For the final two years before his retirement, in 1973, he was Builders' Secretary. On retirement, Les and his wife Molly (who was also part of the HQ staff team at that time) moved to Cirencester where Les became an active and much loved member of the local branch, and was actually at a branch meeting less than a month before his death.

Les was a down-to-earth north countryman with a real capacity for friendship and care, as well as for hard work. Toc H and his many friends owe him much.

JEM

H A (Bob) Peyton-Bruhl, who died in August, and his wife Elsie, were for some seven years the well loved warden of Toc H Wolfenbuttel. On retirement Bob joined Radford Semele Branch, whose members will greatly miss his good cheer and encouragement.

KR

We give thanks for their lives

Jack & Henry

FOR CHRISTMAS

Christmas Cards

South West Region cards still available.
Series A - 8 full colour designs (robins).
Series B - 8 pastel designs (religious themes).
Five cards with envelopes. £0.50

1991 Diary

The usual slimline design, in green, with information about Toc H and regional, national and international Toc H addresses. An essential tool for all members. £1.00

'Out of a Hop Loft'

The new Toc H book by Judith Rice and Kenneth Prideaux-Brune. Published by Darton, Longman & Todd and warmly received by *Church Times* and *The Tablet*. £6.95

Talbot House, Poperinge

The new guide, copiously illustrated in full colour. £1.00

Hand Towels

With Talbot House, Poperinge, design. Printed royal blue on white. 100% cotton. £2.00

Tea Towels

In Indian white cotton, with Toc H logo in royal blue. Size approx 24" x 36" £2.25

All from
Toc H Publications,
1 Forest Close, Wendover,
Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 6BT.
Cheques should be made payable to Toc H.

Please add postage:

| | |
|--------------------|-------|
| Orders under £5.00 | £0.25 |
| Orders £5 - £10 | £0.50 |
| Orders over £10 | £1.00 |



Prideaux House

The Community and Fellowship of
Friends Anonymous Service

Prideaux House is not a hotel, nor a boarding house, nor a hostel. It is the home of a community of people who have found their faith in God very real and relevant.

Our aim is to offer good quality accommodation in a homely atmosphere for that short break in London, near the West End, theatres, shops, museums and concerts. Ideally suited for persons attending conferences, courses, business meetings, interviews, and for those in need of relaxation. Perfect for groups or persons wanting peace and quiet.

Accommodation is offered in The Stanley Coulson Wing of our Community House and Centre in ten single (only) rooms, and all proceeds support our work in Hackney.

Each bedroom has a very high standard of furnishing with own wash-basin. There are good shower facilities, lounges, TV Room, small garden and the Community Chapel. Wholesome cooking is the norm. Sadly, accommodation is not suitable for children, smokers and persons on specific orthodox diets.

For further information contact:

The Rev Gualter R de Mello, Prideaux House, Ecumenical Interfaith Centre,
10 Church Crescent, London, E9 7DL. Telephone: 01 986 2233.

(If writing, state name of paper, quoting 'ACC/87'.)

Central Council 1990

Agendas for this annual meeting are available from Wendover if required.

Small ads Small ads Small ads

Small advertisements must be received (with remittance) five weeks before publication day, which is the 23rd of the preceding month. The charge is 10p a word (minimum £1) plus VAT, to *Point 3 Magazine*. Rates of display advertisements can be obtained from the Editorial Office, Toc H Headquarters, 1 Forest Close, Wendover, Aylesbury, Bucks HP22 6BT.

Our 'Christian Crackers'. Advent and Christmas booklets make excellent inexpensive gifts. Details from: Norheimsund Books and Cards, 1 Whitney Road, Burton Latimer, Kettering, Northants NN15 5SL

Hythe, Kent - homely accommodation in member's home. Bed/breakfast and/or evening meal or full board, very reasonable rates. Enquire Nesta Cock, 7 Tournay Close, Lympne, Hythe, Kent CT21 4LL. Tel: 0303 269407.

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